

LET'S GO FISHING!

YOUR GUIDE TO ANGLING ON FORT COLLINS NATURAL AREAS



FISH RESPONSIBLY

- Quietly approach areas where others are fishing to avoid disturbing them and the fish.
- Give other anglers a wide berth to avoid crowding. Fishing areas are enjoyed on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no such thing as your own personal spot.
- Be sure to pick up discarded line and other waste. Place line in the special recycling containers. Abandoned fishing line causes many wildlife deaths.



REGULATIONS

- Colorado fishing license is required. Visit cpw.state.co.us for all state fishing regulations.
- No alcohol is permitted on any natural area at any time.
- No swimming is permitted in ponds in natural areas.
- Bow fishing is not permitted.
- Float tubes, electric trolling motors, canoes, kayaks, non-motorized and belly boats are allowed on ponds that allow fishing.
- Know what safety equipment and licensing is required for your vessel. Visit cpw.state.co.us.

CATCH AND RELEASE

Many anglers prefer to release their catch and preserve fish for future anglers.

- Reel in quickly. An exhausted fish may not survive its return to the water.
- Use artificial lures. These tend to cause less damage to the fish.
- Handle a fish as little as possible and keep it in the water.
- Use barbless hooks or pinch the barbs closed with pliers.
- If a fish has swallowed the hook, don't pull it out. Cut the hook and remove both ends or cut the line as close to its mouth as possible leaving the hook in the fish.
- Don't squeeze the fish or touch the gills.
- To release a fish, hold it in the water and gently move it back and forth so it can regain its equilibrium. Slowly relax your hands and let it swim away.



City of
Fort Collins
Natural
Areas

Natural Areas Department
970-416-2815

Rangers 970-416-2147

Life-threatening emergency 911

fcgov.com/naturalareas

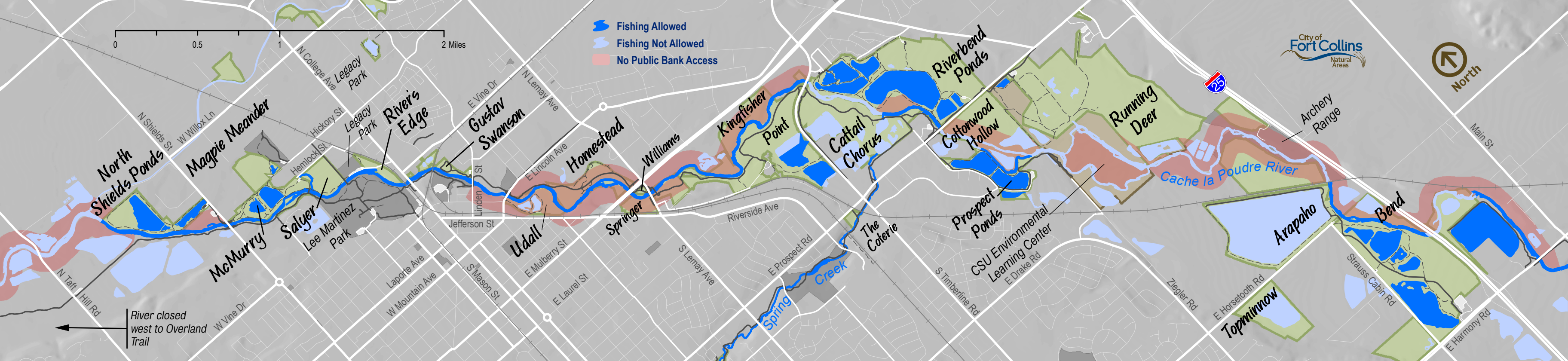
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WHERE TO GO?

FAMILY FRIENDLY

- **Arapaho Bend**—Easy walk-in; good for boating. Obey posted “No Fishing” areas.
- **Gateway**—Not shown on map. Fly fishers’ dream; parking fee required.
- **Kingfisher Point**—Park off of Timberline and walk-in along the dirt road. Fishing access on both sides.
- **Magpie Meander**—Small pond with ADA-accessible pier. No river access.
- **Mallard’s Nest**—Located along the Spring Creek Trail.

There are 14 City of Fort Collins natural areas where fishing is permitted.

- **McMurry**—Ponds and river access; boat ramp.
- **North Shields Ponds**—Ponds and river access; ADA-accessible pier.
- **Pineridge**—Not shown on map. Dixon Reservoir with boat ramp.
- **Prospect Ponds**—Ponds with river access southeast of natural area.
- **Riverbend Ponds**—Easy walk in; ADA-accessible pier at Cairns Street lot.



K. Manderbach

NO FISHING ALLOWED!

To protect sensitive plants, animals, and banks, some natural areas do not permit fishing. Please **do not** fish at Arapaho Bend east of I-25, Butterfly Woods, Cattail Chorus, Cottonwood Hollow, Running Deer, or Springer. Thank you for protecting natural areas.

WHAT’S THE CATCH?

Most ponds are stocked periodically by Colorado Parks and Wildlife with bass, wiper, bluegill, crappie, and catfish. Other pond fish include carp, perch, bullhead, shad, and sucker. The Cache la Poudre River in Fort Collins is home to brown and rainbow trout.

There are many places to fish in our natural areas. Please respect other anglers, the regulations, and no fishing areas. For more information visit fcgov.com/fishing.

